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This is UNEVALUATED
Information

FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

NORTH KOREAN TRENDS

DATE OF REPORT: 25 September 1956

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The living conditions of the people are now unspeakably miserable. Quoted below are some factors bespeaking of these wretched living conditions:

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- A. Because of the lack of rice, the people are now eating porridge; even this lacking in quantity, they are supplementing it with bark and grass roots.
- B. Whereas laborers worked freely under the Japanese, they have no freedom in labor work under the North Korean Communist regime now. They have been deprived of the freedom of moving from one place to another.
- C. During the Japanese occupation, people owned many clothes and other articles, but this aspect of the people's life has vanished under the North Korean people's government.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

4. The following are prices of commodities in North Korea [redacted]

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[redacted]

<u>Items</u>	<u>Prices (Wön)</u>
Rice, litre, 9 (free market)	700
Rice, glutinous, litre, 9 (free market)	700
Millet, litre, 9 (free market)	650
Bean, soy, litre, 9 (free market)	700
Pea, red, litre, 9 (free market)	700
Sheeting, cotton, meter, 1 (consumers' guild)	300
Sheeting, cotton, dark blue, meter, 1 (consumers' guild)	400
Clothing, twill, white, meter, 1 (consumers' guild)	210
Clothing, cotton, high quality, meter, 1 (consumers' guild)	450
Clothing, cotton, coarse, yards, 20 (approximate) (consumers' guild)	1,900-2,000
Clothing, hemp, yards, 20 (approximate) (consumers' guild)	1,900-2,000
Working clothes (padded, khaki, army uniform), suit, 1 (consumers' guild)	3,000-4,000
Working clothes (padded, khaki, uniform of government officials), suit, 1 (consumers' guild)	4,000
Underwear, winter, Chinese, pair (consumers' guild)	7,000
Socks, North Korean, pair (consumers' guild)	100
Socks, Chinese, pair (consumers' guild)	150
Gloves, North Korean, pair (consumers' guild)	100-150
Shoes, rubber, male, pair (consumers' guild)	400
Shoes, rubber, black, female, pair (consumers' guild)	350
Shoes, rubber, white, female, pair (consumers' guild)	500
Shoes, basketball, North Korean, pair (consumers' guild)	350
Shoes, sport, North Korea, pair (consumers' guild)	400
Soap, laundry, cake, 1 (consumers' guild)	100
Soap, toilet, cake, 1 (consumers' guild)	200
Powder, tooth, North Korean, package, 1 (consumers' guild)	35
Paste, tooth, Chinese, 1 (consumers' guild)	150
Brush, tooth, North Korea, 1 (consumers' guild)	35
Brush, tooth, Chinese, 1 (consumers' guild)	200
Cigarettes, "Taedong-mun" label, pack, 1 (consumers' guild)	25
Cigarettes, "Kōnsol" label, pack, 1 (consumers' guild)	40
Cigarettes, "Kalmaegi" label, pack 1 (consumers' guild)	30
Tobacco, minced, "Puyong" label, package, 1 (consumers' guild)	30
Matches, box (small), 1 (consumers' guild)	5
Spirits, ardent, litre, 1.8 (consumers' guild)	450
Mackerel, fresh, 2 (consumers' guild)	35
Candle, 1 (consumers' guild)	50
Apple, kilogram, 1 (consumers' guild)	50
Chestnuts, litre, 1.8 (consumers' guild)	100
Boots, rubber, pair (consumers' guild)	700
Shoes, leather, pair (consumers' guild)	1,160

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Sometime in [redacted] the prices of the consumers' store commodities given above were reduced.

ration of the prices of these commodities, [redacted] the prices of cigarettes, cotton sheeting, rubber shoes, wine, and matches were reduced 25 percent. Commodities are sold cheaper at national stores than on the blackmarket. Foodstuffs are the main commodity sold on the blackmarket. Other than foodstuffs, there are no noteworthy commodities sold on the blackmarket. At national stores, rice is sold at a price 170 Wön cheaper per 18 litres than on the blackmarket. City dwellers consist most of the purchasers of rice from the blackmarket. The prices of commodities sold at the consumers' guild have been fixed by the government.

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were again reduced by 25 percent. These three (3) price reductions had been carried out in accordance with the policy of the Government of the People's Republic. These three (3) price reductions, however, have not netted any preferable results.

6. Rice is the most readily available item in North Korea. So long as one has money, it is not difficult to buy rice. There is none that can be purchased without money. One rarely sees people standing in line to purchase any specific items.

7. [redacted] 45,000 tons of flour were to be brought into North Korea, under aid programs, from the Soviet Union. [redacted] 8,500 tons of rice were to be imported to North Korea from China [redacted]

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9. [redacted] Two (2) people die of hunger. [redacted] farmers had been out of food and subsisting on grass roots and bark. Finally two (2) farmers (respectively aged 54 and 28) fell seriously ill, caused by malnutrition, and died. The government authorities were saying that they were taking measures for such cases, but, in actuality, they were not taking adequate measures because of the large number of families who were in such conditions.

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12. As packaged and prepared goods [redacted] bags of Russian fertilizer and something encased in straw bags produced in North Korea. [redacted]

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[redacted] In packing, each bag was first stuffed with 120393 lbs of rice. A bag, thus filled, was then bound with straw rope one fold sidewise and three folds lengthwise. Bags containing miscellaneous grain (soy bean, peas) were bound twofolds sidewise. These are the standard packing procedures required in paying tax-in-kinds to the government.

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13. [redacted] 25X1

14. Shrimp and small gray mullet [redacted] are used as side-dish food. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] Salted mackerel and dried Alaska pollack were on sale at the consumers' guild [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
 the lack of baking equipment and baking know-how. [redacted] 25X1

15. [redacted] 25X1

16. Consumers' guild restaurants are the only restaurants available to be seen. Sold at consumers' guild restaurants are noodles, meat-soup-rice, ardent spirits, broiled beef, and green-pea pancake (Pindae-ttök) (the last two items for drinking). The majority of the customers eat noodles. Other food items are not sold much. Following are the prices of food items given above:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Prices (Won)</u>
Noodles, bowl, 1	100
Meat-soup-rice, bowl, 1	150
Spirits, ardent, litre, 7.2	196
Beef, pound, 1.3	270
Green-pea pancake, 1	10

17. [redacted] 25X1

18. [redacted] In North Korea, people over 50 wear traditional Korean costumes, while people, between 30 to 50 years of age, wear western style clothes, with stand-up collars, during working hours, and the usual gentlemen's suits for outing. People under 30 years of age usually wear western style clothes with stand-up collars. Many women, while engaged in labor, wear trousers. However, old women wear traditional Korean style coats, and skirts. In winter, government officials wear padded, khaki or deep blue western clothes in the style of military uniforms. In summer, they wear khaki or deep blue western clothes. Students have no uniforms, but they wear whatever clothes they have. In summer, fishermen wear whatever clothes they have. But, in winter, they wear the cast-off uniforms of the People's Armed Forces. In North Korea, clothes are usually made of hemp and cotton. Clothes worn by well-dressed people are usually made a deep blue cotton sheeting sold at consumers' guild stores. The prevailing color of clothes usually worn by youngmen is deep blue. The clothes worn by youngmen usually have stand-up collars. 25X1

19. The majority of the workers [redacted] in North Korea were clad in the ragged cast-off uniforms of the People's Armed Forces. No members of the People's Armed Forces are clad in such worn-out uniforms. 25X1

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20.

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21.

[redacted] on the free-market. Sold at the free-market are eggs, domestic fowl, puppies, piglings, rice, soy bean, peas, corn, and fish. These commodities are not sold at the consumers' guild. The merchants do not obey government directives of selling such commodities at the consumers' guild. [redacted]
 the sale of grain was completely prohibited. But since [redacted] the government's restriction had been somewhat lifted. Medicine, notably, penicillin, was the commodity [redacted] hard to obtain [redacted]

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purchasing of such medicine was conducted in secrecy. People are trying hard to obtain such medicine.

22.

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[redacted] House-wives of rural villages are usually engaged in the blackmarket. There are not many regular merchants in North Korea. [redacted]
 [redacted] In order to root out such merchants, heavy taxes are imposed by the government. Merchants are gradually vanishing as a result of such heavy taxation. [redacted]

23.

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[redacted] residents [redacted] usually carried in his pockets tobacco (Puyong label), a tobacco pouch, paper to roll tobacco with, a pipe, matches, a flint, a citizenship card, a party membership card (if he were a party member), a membership card of the Democratic Youth League (if he were member of the Democratic Youth League), and a Chinese fountain-pen (if he knows how to write). [redacted]
 [redacted] Fountain-pens were the only foreign made goods to be seen [redacted] A Chinese fountain-pen, with a tip bearing the inscription "Hung-sung" (2767/2646), is sold for 700 Won at the market. It is not known whether or not these fountain-pens are imported, but they are not good in quality.

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24.

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[redacted] No sewing machines were seen being sold and purchased at the market.

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[redacted] Electricity was supposedly on 24 hours a day, it was usually off once or twice a week. Once the lights went out, the stoppage of electricity lasted five (5) hours to three (3) days at the maximum. This was the general situation prevailing in Source's village. The monthly electricity charge for one (1) light was 45 Won.

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30.

There were no hotels, inns, or lodging houses in [redacted] village.

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31.

[redacted] people paid local autonomy taxes four (4) times a year. Each time people paid 1,500 Won. Twenty-seven (27) percent of the agricultural products was paid as tax-in-kind. But the 27 percent is what they (Communists) say; in actuality, the tax-in-kind amounts to 60 percent of the total products. Six (6) percent of the total products was paid as water-tax. Of these taxes-in-kind [redacted]

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[redacted] the local autonomy tax was being sent by the district (Ri) people's committee to the county (Kun) people's committee. Crops collected as taxes-in-kind are first taken to a warehouse located in each township (Myon) (Pre-RD), then to the provincial (To) "Grain Warehouse of the Food Administration Department. Water-tax is collected in the same manner as in the case of tax-in-kind. Sometimes the government lifts the imposition of tax-in-kind or water-tax for non-farming families who are unlikely to be able to pay the taxes in due time. Such policy of the government is known as the "non-farming family measures", and takes place on rare occasions.

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32.

32.	
	a farmer [redacted] paid

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[redacted] only tax-in-kind and water-tax. Such taxes were collected by officials of the Food Administration Section of the County (Kun) People's Committee.

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[redacted] No discriminatory treatment is accorded to the farmers in giving exemptions.

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35. [redacted] 25X1
 Soviet motion pictures or other motion picture propagandizing farming situation once a month at the county (Kun) people's committee. Entrance fees were paid not by individuals but by each family, 30 Wōn each time. 25X1

36. The North Korean currency [redacted] was in the denominations of 100 Wōn, ten (10) Wōn, five (5), one (1) Wōn, 50 Chōn, and 20 Chōn, and 15 Chōn. [redacted] 25X1
 (10) Wōn notes the most. [redacted] 10,000 Chinese Yuan were exchanged for 400 North Korean Wōn prior to the armistice. 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

37. [redacted]

38. In North Korea, medicines such as penicillin, mycin, and diazine are readily convertible to cash, if there is any available. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] watches and tires. [redacted] 25X1
 can be readily convertible to rice, rather than to cash.

39. [redacted] Banks are located in the county (Kun) seats. These banks are known as the farmers' banks. [redacted] these banks are operated by the government. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

40. [redacted] 25X1

41. [redacted]

42. [redacted]

43. The new people in [redacted] village were some discharged soldiers who had been assigned to the local farm cooperative. [redacted] 25X1
 some over-aged ex-members (females) of a construction trust in P'yongyang (45, 50, 42 years) having been assigned to the local farm cooperative, for now they were only suited to farming. Such moves seemed to have been sponsored by the government. [redacted] 25X1

44. The majority of the residents [redacted] were engaged in farming. Members of each village self-defense unit, usually males, aged 17 - 49, organized into sub-teams of four (4) persons, guarded the village from 2100 hours to 0600 hours of the following day. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] Chinese soldiers, deployed around Ch'ōngch'ōng-gang, engaged in coastal guarding. The Chinese guards numbered approximately 15, and they were armed with Russian sub-machine guns and rifles. The area covered by these guards was approximately three (3) kilometers in length. These 15 Chinese soldiers bunked at a civilians house located at YD 074797. [redacted] these soldiers were 25X1
 patrolling, in units of twos, the area extending from YD 066790 to YD 080804. It was said that they were guarding the estuary of Ch'ōngch'ōng-gang. [redacted] 25X1

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45. [redacted] people aged 17 to 59 were mobilized for ten (1) days for irrigation work, sponsored by the P'yongan-namdo Irrigation Association [redacted] The people mobilized were all farmers. Ex-servicemen and students were not mobilized. [redacted] farmers were required to be mobilized for labor for 20 days annually. This regulation was actually being enforced. Such a labor work did not require any skill. During such a period of mobilization, the mobilized stayed at their work sites. For sleeping quarters, they were assigned to nearby farm houses. [redacted] 25X1

46. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] village [redacted] of 53 families. A village of this size is a component part of a district (Ri). [redacted] 25X1

47. [redacted] 25X1

48. [redacted] factory workers being released for being too old or the lack of skill, and assigned to rural areas. [redacted] many factory workers were losing their jobs as a result of the mechanization of factories and [redacted] they were being assigned to rural areas for farming. 25X1
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 25X1
 25X1

49. [redacted] an airstrip at YD 19177 [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] being used by the Chinese Armed Forces. This airstrip was left unfinished by the Japanese, but has been refurbished by the Chinese Armed Forces. The airstrip is approximately 800 meters long and 250 meters wide, while the runway is approximately 500 meters long and 80 meters wide. No barbed-wire fence surrounds the airstrip. It is guarded by approximately 30 Chinese soldiers. The guarding of the airstrip was being conducted to such an extent that a Chinese soldier being posted in the middle of the airstrip was banning people from walking across the airstrip. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] an airplane of unknown nationality with three white-striped wings landed at this airstrip once every three (3) days. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] this airplane belonged to a neutral nation [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] people arriving in this airplane travelling to Sinanju. One person, who had arrived on board this airplane and who was being taken to Sinanju by a jeep (Russian), was dressed in padded, khaki clothes and wearing a hat with an unrecognizable insignia. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] this man had a big nose, unlike Koreans or Chinese, yellow eyes and big physique. [redacted] 25X1
 25X1
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50. [redacted] 25X1

51. [redacted]

52. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] many foreign technicians were in North Korea repairing the war-destroyed factories. [redacted] 25X1

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53.

54.

55.

56.

57. It took 14 days for the mail from Kuyaksu-ri, (Ch'orsan-gun, P'yongan-bukto) to arrive, while it took seven (7) days for the letter from Nam-guyok to arrive. 25X1
25X1

58. Mail was delivered by a mail deliverer who trekked about.

59.

60.

61.

62.

63. The P'yongyang Central Broadcasting Station is the only broadcasting station ever heard of. 25X1
25X1

64. Rice was the dominating crop grown in Tongnim-ni (ID 114,788) (Mundok-kun, P'yongan-namdo). 80,000 bags of rice were produced annually in this village. 25X1
25X1

65. There were only eight (8) families engaged in individual farming, while 45 families were engaged in farming as members of the farm cooperative. The eight (8) families engaged in individual farming (Tongnim-ni ID 114,788), Mundok-kun, P'yongan-namdo), where 45 families are affiliated with the farm cooperative, will shortly be dragged into the cooperative. One can see that the farm cooperative is expanding in this manner day by day. Only 25 families joined the farm cooperative when it was established, but 20 more families joined in 1955. 25X1
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66. On instructions from the county (Kun) people's committee, each district (Ri) people's committee is persuading the farmers of the village to join the farm cooperative with propaganda to the effect that under collective farming, farming methods would be mechanized and the farmers would, consequently, be able to farm with ease and would not feel the shortage of food. Realizing that they have to purchase things with their own money as long as they remained individual farmers, the individual farmers will eventually join the farm cooperative. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] individually farmers are not discriminated against as compared with members of the farm cooperative in terms of giving farm implements and fertilizer. There was, however, discrimination in levying tax-in-kind for the crops harvested: once a year from the members of the farm cooperative, but twice a year from individual farmers. In order to purchase a thresher, an individual farmer had to pay 4,000 Won to the farm cooperative, while a member of the farm cooperative just needed to pay 2,300 Won to the cooperative. [redacted] 25X1

67. [redacted] land was distributed at the rate of 7,028 square yards per adult and 3,084 square yards per non-adult. This ratio of land ownership, however, is not maintained at percent. [redacted] each of the individual farming families, consisting of five (5) persons on the average, owned 11,856 square yards of land. The farm cooperative had allocated 8,694.4 square yards of land to each of its members with working ability. As has been described above, individual farmers and the members of the farm cooperative pay 27 percent of their annual crop harvests as tax-in-kind, and six (6) percent of its as water-tax. This percentage is only in name sake. In actuality, however, the farmers are paying as taxes 50 - 60 percent of their crop harvests. Such a tax-in-kind is usually delivered to the Food Administration Bureau of the Provincial (To) people's committee during the period of 1 November - 5 December of each year. 25X1

68. [redacted] fertilizer from a fertilizer distribution station in the seat of Mundok-kun (XD 233746), (Pi'yongan-namdo) 25X1
 [redacted] The fertilizer, for paddy fields, was carried by an ox-cart. The fertilizer was distributed at the rate of one (1) bag (weighing 50 kilograms) per 11,856 square yards of land. The fertilizer, known as "Rurinran" (phonetic) was Russian made. One (1) bag of this fertilizer was exchanged for a bag of rice. In addition to this fertilizer, farmers and manure produced at their homes at the instigation of the government. 25X1

69. All the farm tools used [redacted] were those which had been in use since the Japanese days. Threshers produced, patterned after those of the Japanese days, were used, but they did not last long. 25X1

70. [redacted] approximately 150 members of the People's Armed Forces helping farmers in transplanting rice seedlings. 25X1
 [redacted]

71. [redacted] Villages had been instructed to grow cotton, wheat, and barley in dry fields. 25X1
 [redacted]

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72. The fishermen of a village, located approximately three (3) kilometers, away were only allowed to fish within two (2) kilometers from the shore. Within this two-kilometer limits, the fishermen were free to fish individually, not in groups. There were no guard boats. [redacted] Wooden, sail boats were the prevailing type of boats used for fishing in North Korea. 25X1
[redacted] 25X1

73. Only those who have a fisherman's certificates are allowed to be engaged in fishing. There are certain procedures for fishermen to go through when entering and leaving ports. There are no time limits for fishing.

74. [redacted] 25X1

75. [redacted]

76. [redacted] the general area of Kaesong was being afflicted with an epidemic known as the "Japanese encephalitis". 25X1
[redacted] 25X1

77. In North Korea, people cannot receive medical care for emergency cases. The hospitals are open only from 0900 hours to 1700 hours. Medical treatment is available only during these hours. No matter how urgent a case may be, one is not received during other hours. People cannot receive satisfactory treatment at hospitals because of the shortage of medical supplies, and even admittance into such hospitals is not easy because of their scarcity. [redacted] 25X1
there is only one (1) hospital in the town which was the seat of township during the Japanese occupation. [redacted] there was a Hungarian doctor practicing in Chinnamp'o. [redacted] there were some Hungarian doctors working at a hospital in Simuiju. 25X1
25X1

78. There was a clinic at a place approximately three (3) kilometers from [redacted] 25X1

79. [redacted] typhoid injection known as "Hana Vaccine" (phonetic). This typhoid injection was given to all residents, regardless of age or sex. 25X1
[redacted] 25X1

80. [redacted]

81. [redacted] village [redacted] located in a coastal areas [redacted] villagers had difficulty with water. They used rainwater and water from wells. Because of its salinity, even the well water was not like very much. To ease the water shortage, little ponds were dug along the foot of a mountain, and the pond water was used. Such water was not processed. 25X1
25X1
25X1

82. It was impossible for the general public to purchase medicine at markets. [redacted] people could purchase penicillin, mycin, and diazine in P'yongyang. One (1) bottle of such medicines costs approximately 1,300 - 1,500 Won. [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1

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83. [redacted] 25X1

84. [redacted] a member of the county (Kun) propaganda department [redacted] warned the village residents that South Korea was waging bacteriological warfare against North Korea and that, therefore, the villagers should be careful of the water they drink, should keep things, clean, and should kill flies, mosquitos, and rats. [redacted] 25X1
25X1

85. [redacted] there was no limit in the number of personnel manning a team of a cooperative. [redacted] 25X1
25X1
25X1

86. [redacted]
 [redacted] There was not any conspicuous discrimination in the treatment given to party members and non-party members.
 [redacted] From time to time [redacted] non-party members, gathered in an informal meeting, would grumble that it was possible for them to get taxes reduced or be exempted if they were only united and resisted the policies of the party members. But such grumbling would stop abruptly if a party member happened to drop in meeting. [redacted] 25X1
25X1

[redacted]
 anybody missing party meetings three (3) times without any justifiable reasons would be expelled from the party.

87. [redacted] 25X1

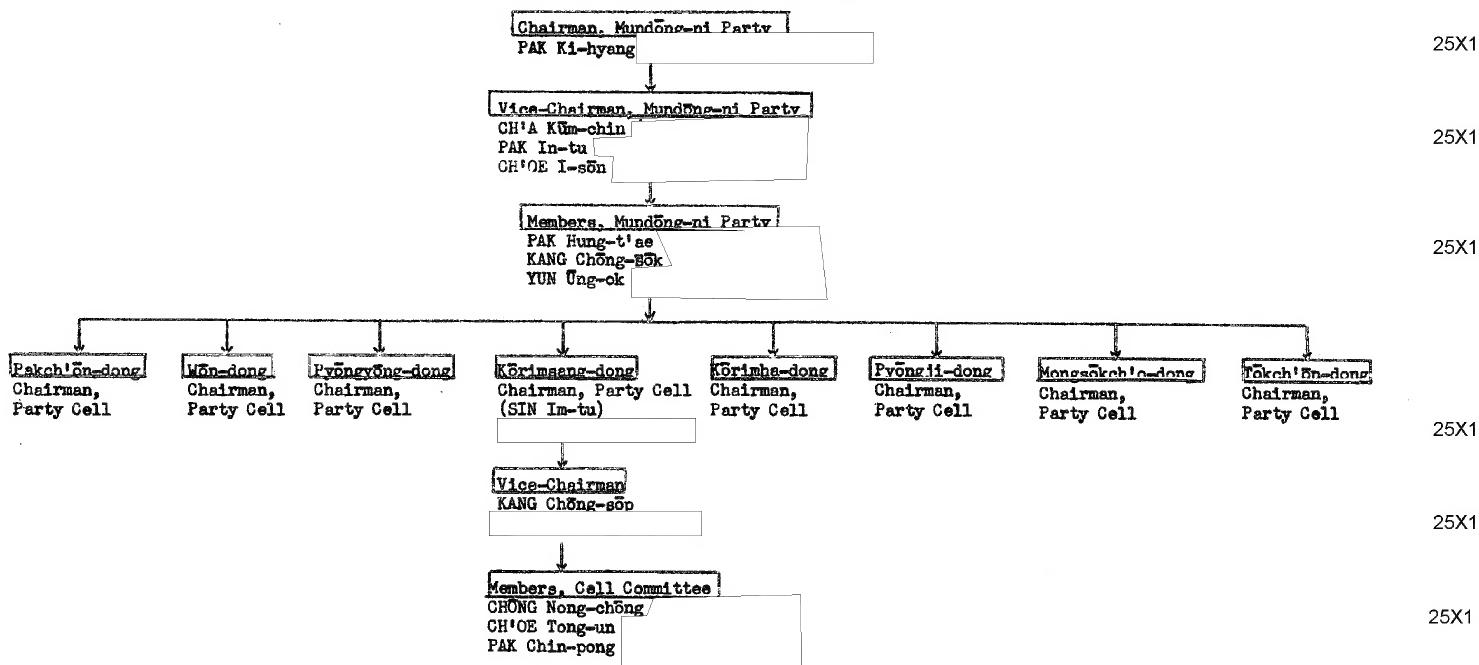
88. [redacted] CHÔNG Nong-chông (NTA)
 [redacted] was vice-chairman of the district (Ri) people's committee.
 [redacted] 25X1
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[redacted] In [redacted] village, there was a bulletain board, which was used for the purpose of letting people know the production status and of pointing out the lags in production. [redacted] 25X1
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[redacted]
 charts shows the party organization [redacted] This organization consisted not only of the district (Ri) party committee but also of the general party members of the village. The party organizational systems in other villages were all similar [redacted] 25X1
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Party Organization in Kōrimseong-dong Under the Mundōng-ni People's Committee



89. [redacted] 25X1

90. As an internal affairs organization, there is the Yonho Internal Affairs Sub-Station, which is under the Mundok-kun Internal Affairs Station, (P'yongan-namdo Internal Affairs Department). The Yonho Internal Affairs Sub-Station is headed by a chief and a vice-chief, and consists of the Security Sub-Section and the Citizenship Card Sub-Section. Speaking of the county (Kun) administrative organization, there is the Mundok-kun People's Committee, which has 27 district (Ri) people's committees under it. The farming families who are not members of farm cooperative have been organized into people's neighborhoods (Inmin-ban). Members of the farm cooperative have been organized into work teams. 25X1

91. The greetings exchanged between party members varied according to the seasons. [redacted] 25X1
 meet on the street: "Have you paid your tax-in-kind, Comrade?" or "Wont't you feel short of food after paying up your tax-in-kind?" In summer, the greetings exchanged were again concerned with farming. In winter, each farming family received a quota of straw bags, to be produced and the greeting was naturally, "Are you achieving your straw bag production quota"? In meeting a person after a long separation, the greeting was: "How are you?" or "I haven't seen you for a long time". Strangers meeting for the first time gave their names first and then greeted. Such greetings given above were universal among both party members and non-party members.

92. [redacted] 25X1

93. [redacted]

94. In North Korea [redacted] newspapers as the Farmers' News, the P'yongnam Daily, the Labor News, and the Democratic Korea. "Political Knowledge" [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] it was difficult to purchase books, magazines, or newspapers in the rural areas of North Korea; though the situation might have been somewhat different in the cities. [redacted] 25X1
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97. [redacted]

98. [redacted]

99. People could easily visit the homes of friends or relatives living nearby. It was, however, difficult to visit the homes of friends or relatives living far away. To make such a trip, one had to obtain a travel permit from the district (Ri) people's committee. Anybody making such a long distance trip without a travel permit is subject to check. The lodging check is very strict, and the questioning is too troublesome. The allowed period of a long distances trip is usually 14 days. [redacted] there is not any area to which all travel is prohibited. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

100. A traveller is required to enter his travel permit or citizenship card in a lodging ledger provided at the district (Ri) people's committee, before he is allowed to go freely to the home of his acquaintance to stay. A person moving into a new place obtains a "moving certificate" from the internal affairs station. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] People observed such procedures voluntarily. 25X1

101. [redacted] 25X1

102. In North Korea, the district (Ri) party had the most immediate effect [redacted] 25X1

103. [redacted]

104. The very thing hated most by the general public in North Korea, as [redacted] is the meetings of the Labor Party, 25X1
 the Democratic Youth League, the Women's League, and the Farm Cooperative, which they are forced to attend. Party members are compelled to attend such meetings over eight (8) times a month, and the members of the League have to attend over seven (7) times a month. Absentees from such meetings are severely criticized. The situation being as such, the people have no option but to attend such meetings. Both party members and non-party members hate to attend such meetings under such conditions.

105. People have complaints about such meetings as stated above. Prevented from taking a good rest after a long day's work, farmers are usually so sleepy and exhausted at such meetings that they are full of complaints. Such dissatisfaction is never expressed outwardly; they complain inwardly. Attendants of such meetings can perceive that even the party members are against the meetings. Regardless of the poor living standards, people are required to pay tax-in-kind, local autonomy tax, and water-tax, which amount to approximately 50 - 60 percent of their annual crop harvests, though the government authorities maintain that the taxes in all amount to only 27 percent. People are very much dissatisfied about such heavy taxes, but they do not express this feeling outwardly. This feeling of dissatisfaction about taxes is shared both by the party members and non-party members.

106. [redacted] the staff members of the party and higher ranking 25X1
 people are ardently supporting the North Korean People's Republic. But the rest of the people in North Korea seems to be opposed to the present regime, judging from the way they complain.

107. [redacted] 25X1

108. [redacted]

109. [redacted]

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

110.

[redacted] the general public in the rural areas of North Korea thinks that, if and when Korea has been united and North Korea is placed under the control of the South Korean Government, the people in North Korea would face a situation worse than that of the present; that the people will be demanded to surrender more grain to the government as under the Japanese control; and that, then, North Korea would be turned into a colony of the United States just as in the case of South Korea at present. The repeated propaganda disseminated by propagandists of the county (Kun) propaganda department, to which they are long subjected, makes the general public of North Korea think this way. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] 25X1

C O N F I D E N T I A L